

**Department of Public Works and Transportation
Montgomery County, Maryland**

DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES



The model recycling program designed for several restaurants in Bethesda by SORRT team member, Jacquie Dennis, continues to show increased participation six months later.

***MONTHLY REPORT
FEBRUARY 2002***



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OVERVIEW

Tonnage at a Glance

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, fiscal year to date (FY Total), and current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2002 began July 1, 2001.)

FACILITY	Feb FY 02	FY 02 Total	Feb FY 01	Feb FY 00
Materials Recovery Facility ⁽¹⁾	5,976 tons	53,232 tons	5,733 tons	5,724 tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility ⁽⁴⁾	17,091 tons	152,673 tons	10,847 tons	8,361 tons
American Ash Recycling ⁽²⁾	N/A	N/A	2,840 tons	2,974 tons
Resource Recovery Facility ⁽³⁾	35,872 tons	377,952 tons	36,835 tons	36,486 tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	0 tons	44,494 tons	960 tons	0 tons

⁽¹⁾MRF tons reported are outgoing.

⁽²⁾Tons shipped out to ash recycling facility during the indicated period. All tons so shipped are recycled.

⁽³⁾RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here. For FY02 these tonnages are preliminary, with adjustments made in the December and June monthly reports.

⁽⁴⁾This category only addresses waste sent to the landfill for disposal. It does not include rubble that is recycled at Clean Rock or other locations.

Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation – During February, program staff:

- Prepared various reports to assist review of County solid waste revenue bonds by New York rating agencies.
- Prepared and issued web-based invoices and mailed hard copies to all refuse collector credit accounts (second month of new billing system), continued work on aging report tracking payments, and maintained contact with account holders as needed to assure payment compliance;
- Prepared FY03-08 rate model and fiscal health scenarios for OMB and prepared various summary results to facilitate OMB/CE budget decisions and conformed same to the final decisions for publication in CE Recommend Budget Book;
- Completed a Resource Recovery Program Measure adding to three existing Program Measures, and coordinated with budget presentations;
- Finalized FY01 recycling calculation for web posting;
- Sent out data inquiry to regional secondary materials processors;
- Began compiling of data from hauler reports for the July-December period;

- Continued quality assurance reviews of accounts in the database for corrections in the premise addresses, landuse codes, gross floor area and other fields;
- Sent suggested corrections for problem accounts to SDAT for updating;
- Processed 73 changes in the TXA170 system and 4 revised bills;
- Entered additional nonresidential appeal results in the TXA170 system and researched routine level of billing inquiries from property owners;
- Sent the quarterly report of service house counts to each collection contractor;
- Continued training temporary replacement (Karen Stephenson) in critical billing accounts maintenance responsibilities of vacated and frozen Program Specialist I position;
- Continued statistical research on nonresidential waste disposal field data; and
- Work on variable rate feasibility study and appeals processing was limited in order to shift resources need to manage critical responsibilities of the Budget Manager position vacated in January.

CITIZEN COMMITTEES

Facilities Implementation Group – FIG met on January 15, 2002, at the Gothic Barn in Dickerson. Among the topics discussed was an update from Covanta on radiation monitoring at the RRF. The next scheduled FIG meeting is March 12, 2002 at the Gothic Barn.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee – SWAC met Tuesday, February 5th, in the EOB, 6th Floor Conference Room. Twelve SWAC members, four County staff and four guests were in attendance. DSWS staff gave presentations to the Committee on the Capital Budget and on Waste System Program Development.

COLLECTIONS

Refuse – Refuse collections went as scheduled for the month of February. There was one holiday, President's day, which was a working holiday and went without incident. Approximately 1,000 people receive holiday information e-mails from the Division.

Recycling – Mixed paper tonnages for the residential program during the past 28 weeks are as follows:

8/6/01 through 8/31/01	9.10 lbs. per household
9/3/01 through 9/28/01	10.08 lbs. per household
10/1/01 through 10/26/01	11.10 lbs. per household
10/29/01 through 11/23/01	10.83 lbs. per household
11/26/01 through 12/21/01	11.52 lbs. per household
12/24/01 through 1/18/02	9.58 lbs. per household
1/21/02 through 2/15/02	9.01 lbs. per household

Contractor Performance – In February, DSWS received 849 complaints. This represented a 93.85% increase from February 2001, which had 437 complaints. Most of this problem resulted from a decision by one of the contractors to discontinue collecting cardboard boxes that were not broken down, flattened and tied with twine. The County has been collecting the cardboard complaints.

Enforcement Actions – Twelve citations were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Six citations	Not having a valid collectors tag attached	\$3,250
Three citations	Not having a current collectors license	\$1,500
Two citations	Early morning collections	\$1,250
One citation	Accumulation of solid wastes	\$500

Five NOV's were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Two NOV's	Improperly stored solid wastes
One NOV	Failed to store solid waste in a vermin-proof and water proof container with tight-fitting lids
One NOV	Dumping solid wastes at an unapproved acceptance facility
One NOV	Dumping upon property of another

Customer Service – DSWS received 7,778 incoming calls and 330 follow up calls were made for quality check. There were 1,211 blue bins delivered and 325 e-mail requests handled by the Customer Service Staff.

WASTE MINIMIZATION

Latex Paint Management – DSWS continues to promote home management of latex paint.

Computer Recycling – Approximately 42 tons of computers were recycled in February under the computer recycling program. The County will offer computer recycling at the Market Pro Computer Show at the Fairgrounds on March 23-24, 2002.

Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities



Participated in the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education conference in Ocean City at the beginning of the month.

Began production of RainScapes factsheets, information folders, and website, in cooperation with the Potomac Conservancy (www.potomac.org). RainScapes are alternative landscape techniques designed to conserve resources, reduce pesticide and fertilizer use, and expand the use of native plantings and habitat areas. Demonstration gardens are planned for Poolesville H.S. and its Global Ecology program, the Lathrop Smith Environmental Education Center, the Audubon Naturalist

Society, and several private residences, which will be available for group tours and public viewing

Every fourth Friday of the month, the "Green Man" column appears in the Gazette Newspapers; the column also appear in digest form at greenman.askDEP.com and at www.gazette.net.

The Green Man cable television program for County Cable is in the development phase, with set design and title segments being developed, along with a schedule of program guests.

Planning continues for an in-vessel composting system for the Department of Corrections to handle approximately 1,500 pounds of food waste daily.

HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS

Household Hazardous Waste Collection – There were no HHW events in February, although DSWS still assisted walk-in patrons unable to hold materials until the March 3rd event. A mercury-fever-thermometer exchange will commence sometime in the near future. Residents will receive a free digital thermometer when they bring in a mercury fever thermometer (Hg). Hg thermometers can be hazardous if they should break.

Small Quantity Generator (Ecowise) Program – One SQG/Ecowise event was held in February with 12 businesses attending.

AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Resource Recovery Facility (RRF): CEM Tracking of RRF Operations – The Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) continues to independently track the operations of the RRF including shutdown and start-up of the units. On February 5th, the system indicated a spike in the Carbon Monoxide (CO) emissions when unit 3 was brought off-line at 10 p.m. Since then, units 1 and 2 were operating till the end of month. No equipment malfunctions occurred in February.

The CEMS website had some problems in February. The system stopped for a few hours on February 14th. It appears that Covanta corrected the problem. However, the problem of getting midnight data still remains unsolved.

In the first week of February, the set of eight CEMS CD-ROM's was updated to include CEMS data up to January 31, 2002. Copies of the CD-ROM's were placed in the Rockville and Poolesville libraries and distributed to FIG Air Quality Subcommittee.

DSWS received a letter from EPA Region III as a follow-up to the Agency's inspection visit to the facility. The letter required submission of additional information that is primarily related to emissions and air pollution controls at the facility. Currently, DSWS, Covanta and NEA are preparing responses to the EPA letter.

Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility: Leachate Evaporation Technology –

In February, the leachate evaporator operated only for 16 days. The ground-flare was on for 10 days and the backup flare was on for two days. Bentch is still pursuing efforts to implement an electrical generating facility.

FIG-SWAC Air Quality Subcommittee – In February, DSWs received the final report on the RRF Epidemiology Study. The final report took in to account comments made by DSWs and the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee plans to brief FIG in March.

Currently, ENSR is also in the process of preparing a draft report on the Non-Air Media Monitoring Program conducted in Fall 2001. This report is expected in April 2002. In addition, ENSR is working on the update of the RRF Health Risk Study.

Contractual Work – In February, efforts were undertaken to prepare a mini-contract for the Meteorological Services contract. The current contract with RAS Enterprises will expire on June 3, 2002.

RECYCLING

Public Outreach – A Recycling Task Force meeting was held on February 20, 2002. Canvassing on the mixed paper recycling program continues as does recruiting canvassers. Staff is chairing the COG Recycling Subcommittee working on pooling resources for a regional awareness campaign on recycling.

Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction – Staff continued to perform on-site evaluations of recycling programs for businesses and responded to numerous complaints. Notices of violation have been issued in instances where annual reports have not been submitted by large businesses. These reports were due February 1st and several reminders had been sent to all large-businesses (250 or more employees). Staff met with several businesses including private schools to assist in setting up recycling programs.

Multi-Family Recycling – Staff continued to perform on-site evaluations of recycling programs and worked with property managers and residents to provide assistance and support. All annual reports are being reviewed and recycling rates are being calculated. In an effort to keep management companies updated and involved with the recycling progress of their properties, all property management companies will be made aware of the current recycling rates for each of their multi-family properties.

Mixed Paper Recycling – Canvassing continues in the Montgomery Village area. Canvassers are equipped with mixed paper recycling information and mixed paper recycling demonstration kits. A new door-hanger about mixed paper recycling has been produced for use in the canvassing effort.

Volunteer Activities - For the month of February, the Volunteer Program Manager assisted in the Canvassing Initiative, and volunteers assisted in the preparation of the Recycleletter newsletter.

PILOT PROGRAMS

Mixed Paper Pilot –The February totals for the Potomac paper toter program are:

2/06/02	14,100	17.41 lbs. per house
2/13/02	14,480	17.88 lbs. per house
2/20/02	15,680	19.36 lbs. per house
2/27/02	<u>12,640</u>	<u>15.60 lbs. per house</u>
	56,900	17.56 lbs. per house average

The current average weight per house for the 23 weeks of the toter program is 20.49 lbs. as opposed to 13.99 lbs. per house prior to the program. This represents a 46.46% increase in the mixed paper capture rate since the start of the cart program.

Tubgrinding Pilot – Tubgrinding of screened reject material is ongoing

FACILITY ACTIVITIES

Resource Recovery Facility – The facility ran with 3 boilers for the first 5 days of the month. Unit 3 boiler was taken down February 6-18, for its planned outage and then left on stand by till the end of the month.

The ad hoc committee (SWAC & FIG) for developing the protocol for radiation alarms plans to hold its third conference call in early March.

There were no operating curtailments from Mirant and no turbine/generator trips during the month.

Installation of the new radiation detectors at the Transfer Station is in progress. System start up and training remain and will be completed in early March.

There were no air or water quality excursions during the month.

The following environmental activities occurred:

- Submitted the Hazardous Material Use Permit (SARA Tier II) reports for the RRF and Transfer Station to Fire & Rescue.
- Submitted the annual tonnage report for the RRF to MDE.
- Submitted the January 2002 Potable Water Monthly Operating Report to MDE.
- MDE performed monthly visible emissions (Method 9) observations required by the Title V permit on 2/14/02.

Materials Recovery Facility – Approximately 1,564 tons of commingled material were shipped out after processing and approximately 4,412 tons of mixed paper were loaded out and transferred to the Office Paper Systems processing facility.

A subcontract for replacement of processing equipment was signed and a notice to proceed was issued.

Oaks Landfill – The landfill gas management system has been running much better since several emergency repairs were performed in January. However, there is still a need to replace corroding steel pipes. SCS Field Services developed a design for the pipe replacement.

SCS Engineers is nearing completion of design plans for subdividing the leachate storage lagoons to facilitate long-term maintenance.

The County's consultant, R.W. Beck (a subcontractor to Post, Buckley, Schuh & Jernigan) submitted a draft report assessing the feasibility of the County constructing a gas-to-energy facility at the Oaks Landfill. The draft report was reviewed by DSWS and returned to R.W. Beck with comments.

Gude Landfill – Design documents for the repair of several poorly drained areas at the Gude Landfill, prepared by URS, were provided to Highway and Safety Services, Inc., which has a unit price contract with the County for general construction services for development of a cost proposal.

Beantown Dump – DSWS' contractor completed specifications for installation of a gas venting system at the old Beantown dumpsite and DSWS prepared an associated invitation for bid for submission to the Office of Procurement. DSWS awarded the task order for installing methane detectors to SCS Engineers.

Transfer Station – During February, Covanta shipped via rail 40,027 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the Resource Recovery Facility; 3,919 more tons than shipped in February 2001.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

Installation of new radiation detection equipment at the scales continued along with preparation of a new procedures document.

Site 2 Landfill Properties – DFS received six proposals for continued renovation, leasing & occupancy of the Chiswell Farm property. The selection process is in progress. Individual interviews were conducted in February.

Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan – DSWS has recommended a contractor for update of the Plan to the Office of Procurement.

Berm construction between the Compost Facility and the Gothic Barn is complete; plants will be installed in spring.

The Winter Traffic Count to determine the impact of the County facilities in Dickerson on the community was conducted from January 7-11, 2002. A draft report will be presented to FIG in March.

Yard Trim Compost Facility – In February, no material was delivered at the Dickerson Yard Trim Facility for composting.

Bagging Operation – No bagged Leafgro was produced at the facility in February; 21,802 bags of Leafgro were shipped to distributors.

Linden Farm Renovations – Under the signed bagging agreement, the County is to renovate the Feed Barn and Bank Barn. Dean Fitzgerald, the contractor, started the renovation work in June. The first phase of the work is complete.

Out-of-County Haul

Brunswick County, Virginia – During the month of February, approximately 11,954 tons of ash residue and 5,137 tons of nonprocessable waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. Landfill in Brunswick County, Virginia. About 1,143 tons of material was recycled at Clean Earth in Hagerstown, MD. Maintenance on the ash container fleet, including replacement of corroded side panels, continues at the Collier Rail Yard near Petersburg, Virginia.

Ash Recycling – The County and NEA still have negotiations on hold with a proposed ash recycling company because the company is undergoing corporate restructuring.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Important Telephone Numbers

General information on solid waste	240-777-6400
Customer Service	240-777-6410
Transfer Station	301-840-2370 (County Office) 301-590-1032 (Covanta)
Materials Recovery Facility	301-840-2701 (County Office) 301-417-1447 (MES)
Resource Recovery Facility	240-777-6439 (County Office) 301-916-3031 (Covanta)
Yard Trim Compost Facility	301-428-8185 (MES)
Internet for DSWS	www.mcrecycles.org

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

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SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

TOPIC OR FACILITY	
Latest Recycling Rate Reported in Montgomery County	37.2% (FY01)
Recycling Goal	45% by December 2002 50% by December 2004
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 TPD on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (DCF)	Operations limited to receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY01 tons received- 59,643
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	84,788
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	200,206
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

AAR	American Ash Recycling, Inc.
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
BFI	Browning Ferris Industries
CDL	Commercial Driver's License
CEMS	Continuous Emissions Monitoring System
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Transportation Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DNR	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
Mg/l	milligrams per liter
M-NCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Mega Watt hours
NEA	Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority
NOV	Notice of Violation
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NTP	Notice to Proceed
OLAC	Oaks Landfill Advisory Commission
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OPS	Office Paper Systems
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
PSA	Public Service Announcement
RFP	Request for Proposal
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SHA	State Highway Administration
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SDAT	State Department of Assessments and Taxation
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TXA170	Computer Interface Program
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
T.R.R.A.C.	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
UT	Ultra-sonic Testing
WM	Waste Management
YTCF	Yard Trim Composting Facility